

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184480

GENEVA FOR AMB. YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 16800 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO
BONN, CAPE TOWN, DAR ES SALAAM, GABORONE, KHARTOUM,
LAGOS, LONDON, LUSAKA, MAPUTO, OTTAWA, PARIS AND PRETORIA
JUL 18.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16800

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, UR, WA

SUBJECT: SWAPO LEADER NUJOMA IN MOSCOW

1. PRAVDA JULY 18 REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA
AND UNNAMED OTHER DELEGATES REPRESENTING SWAPO MET
WITH CANDIDATE POLITBURO MEMBER PONOMAREV AND CPSU CC
INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT DEPUTY UL'YANOVSKIY IN MOSCOW
JULY 17. ACCORDING TO THE BRIEF ITEM NUJOMA DESCRIBED
THE STRUGGLE WHICH THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE UNDER SWAPO
LEADERSHIP ARE CONDUCTING AGAINST THE SAG FOR
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"GENUINE" INDEPENDENCE AND THANKED THE CPSU AND
SOVIET PEOPLE FOR THEIR SUPPORT. PONOMAREV IN
TURN EXPRESSED "SOLIDARITY WITH THE NATIONAL-PATRIOTIC
FORCES OF NAMIBIA." THE MEETING WAS SAID TO HAVE
TAKEN PLACE IN A "WARM, COMRADELY ATMOSPHERE."

2. THE SOVIET PRESS HAS NOT REPORTED THE MOVEMENT

TOWARDS A NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT AND NO OTHER INFORMATION IS CARRIED ON NUJOMA'S VISIT. THE UK EMBASSY TELLS US IT WAS ALERTED TO NUJOMA'S INTENDED TRAVEL TO MOSCOW AND UNDERSTANDS HE WILL TRAVEL FROM HERE DIRECTLY TO THE KHARTOUM OAU SUMMIT. THE AFRICAN DIPLOMATS WE HAVE SPOKEN WITH HAVE NO OTHER INFORMATION ON THE VISIT.

3. COMMENT: THE PRAVDA ACCOUNT OF THE MEETING RUNS ALONG THE LINES OF THE REPORT CARRIED OCTOBER 10 A YEAR AGO WHEN NUJOMA WAS LAST OFFICIALLY IN MOSCOW. AT THAT TIME HE WAS ALSO RECEIVED BY PONOMAREV AND UL'YANOVSKIY. THE FACT THAT THE ITEM, WHILE STATING CONTINUED SOVIET "SOLIDARITY" WITH SWAPO, DOES NOT ACKNOWLEDGE ANY DISCUSSION OF THE WESTERN-BACKED PLAN FOR NAMIBIA OR SWAPO'S ACCEPTANCE OF IT, INDICATES THE SOVIETS ARE NOT PREPARED TO STATE PUBLICLY THEIR OWN POSITION FOR THE TIME BEING. PRIVATELY OFFICIAL SOVIETS PROBABLY REMAIN DUBIOUS SWAPO WILL HAVE ITS HOPES FULFILLED. GROMYKO'S SON ANATOLIY, HEAD OF THE AFRICA INSTITUTE, TOLD A VISITING WEST GERMAN A FEW DAYS AGO THAT HE WAS SKEPTICAL NAMIBIA WOULD RECEIVE REAL INDEPENDENCE BY THE YEAR'S END. MATLOCK UNQUOTE VANCE

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